

Candidate Statement – Tom McCune

I have served on the Belmont City Council since November of 2019, when I was appointed to fill a vacancy. Before that, I served for 4 years on the Belmont Planning Commission and 2 years on the Belmont Finance Commission. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the citizens of Belmont in these offices. I would welcome an opportunity to continue that service.

My basic approach is simple. I stand for sound fiscal leadership, especially given the COVID-19 pandemic and the unpredictable financial futures it has created. I believe in creating housing while preserving existing neighborhoods. I believe in fixing our deteriorating infrastructure. And I believe in affording all citizens the same liberties, protections, and respect regardless of who they are or what they believe.

I believe we can create desperately needed housing, particularly affordable housing, without impacting existing neighborhoods and public open spaces – which I promise to protect. The “interstitial zones” between our commercial areas and residential neighborhoods are prime locations to develop new housing without adversely impacting Belmont’s character or natural beauty. In fact, new housing in those interstitial zones can form a good buffer between existing neighborhoods and commercial areas while also beautifying regions affected by blight, vacancy, and disrepair.

Belmont’s streets and infrastructure were left to deteriorate for several decades as prior councils deferred necessary maintenance. Before being appointed to the City Council, I was a leader on the successful Measure I campaign, which has since generated enough revenue to fund several major improvement projects. As a councilmember, I’ll continue to ensure that the necessary allocations are made towards fixing roads and infrastructure.

It’s the job of a city to make sure that all citizens receive the same treatment. I’ve always made it a priority to promote a culture of respect and collaboration, regardless of ethnicity, religion, or beliefs. I’ll continue to use my position as a councilmember to ensure those standards are upheld wherever the City of Belmont is involved, including within City Hall and the Belmont Police Department.

I have received the endorsements of all of my colleagues on the Belmont City Council and many other local leaders and officials. A full list of my endorsements, as well as more information about me and my priorities, are available on my website: mccuneforcouncil.com. I would be honored to receive your vote. Thank you.